

REMARKS

The Examiner is hereby advised that the Attorneys of Record have changed. A Revocation and Power of Attorney will be submitted in due course. The Examiner is kindly asked to direct any questions to the undersigned at the phone number given below.

In the Office Action mailed March 3, 2003, the Examiner objected to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a) for failing to show the cutting insert being thicker in the center than at the edges, as recited in claims 5 and 6. In addition, claim 5 was rejected under 35 USC 112, 2nd ¶ on grounds that the expression "the inner portion being a circular" was not understood. Finally, as to the merits in view of the prior art, Claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 USC 102(a) as being anticipated by USP 6,283,146 to Satran et al.

Claims 1-6, as amended herein, are being submitted for the Examiner's consideration.

Objection to the Drawings

Fig. 7 has been amended to indicate the different thicknesses and the specification has been amended at page 7 to describe the reference symbols added to Fig. 7. It is submitted that these amendments do not introduce new matter to the application, and that they overcome the Examiner's objection.

Rejection Under 35 USC 112

In response to this rejection, claim 5 and the specification at page 6 have been amended to change "a circular" to -arcuate--, which was one of the suggestions provided by the Examiner.

Rejection Under 35 USC 102

Applicants traverse the rejection of claims 1-6. Pending independent claim 1 recites, inter alia, "four component side surfaces . . . , each component side surface meeting the upper and lower surfaces at upper and lower component cutting edges." (emphasis added). The insert seen in Fig. 1 of Satran '146 does not disclose this feature. As seen in its figures and described

in the specification, the side surface 8 in Satran '146 does not meet (upper or lower) surface 6 at a cutting edge. Since this feature is missing from Satran '146, there can be no anticipation of the pending claims.

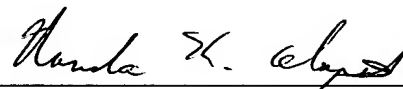
It is further noted that the present application (which was filed December 5, 2001) and Satran '146, are commonly owned, and so Satran '146 cannot be used in a 103 rejection of the pending claims, either. (See 35 USC 103(c)).

Reconsideration of the application is requested. Claims 1-6 are believed to be in allowable form and define over the prior art of record. An early notice of allowance is requested so that the application may proceed to issue.

No fee is believed to be due for this submission. Should a fee be required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any such fee to Womble Carlyle's Deposit Account No. 09-5028.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: June 30, 2003



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Respectfully Submitted,

Date: June 2, 2003

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